

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

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\$1

## The Jay County High School Marching Patriots have a big Super group

**Seven 2023 graduates returned for a final summer**

By **RAY COONEY**  
The Commercial Review

Summer band has some unique rules.

Students are allowed to begin participating before they reach high school.

They are also allowed to continue the summer after graduation.

This year, the Jay County High School Marching Patriots have seven members taking advantage of that latter opportunity.

Of the 86 Marching Patriots, seven — Jordan Wickey, Brooke Stauffer, Owen Ransom, Destiny McManus, Thomas Charles, Kolby Baldwin and Alex Ardizzone — have already walked across the stage with their diplomas. (Two more, Azael Navarro-Garcia and Sophia Shumaker are helping with the giant flyover flag.)

Their reasons for coming back vary.

Some felt the need to give back. Others wanted to continue their learning experience and hold on as long as possible.

And some had the desire to make up for an opportunity lost.

"I think a lot of the super seniors that decided to come back this year did this again because we had to miss out on our 2020 year," said snare drummer Destiny McManus, "and we kind of wanted to fulfill that moment of doing summer band for that last season."

See **Super** page 5



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Thomas Charles, a 2023 Jay County High School graduate who served as the Marching Patriots' drum major for the last two years, is back with the band this summer as a "super senior." He is one of seven of his classmates who chose to come back for an additional year, with two more assisting with the band's giant flag prop.

## JCDC OKs a contract with county

*Agreement covers '23; plan is to revisit '24 later this year*

By **RAY COONEY**  
The Commercial Review

JCDC has agreed to a contract with the county, through the end of the year.

Jay County Development Corporation's board of directors on a 11-2 vote with two abstentions Tuesday approved a contract with the county for the remainder of 2023.

They plan to consider an agreement for 2024 once the county's budgeting process is complete in October.

Tuesday's vote came after a lengthy discussion about the contract, which was presented as an 18-month deal but without a financial commitment for 2024. County commissioners Chad Aker and Brian McGalliard said the amount would not be available until after Jay County Council goes through its budget process. (The budget is typically finalized in October.)

JCDC board members expressed concern about the lack of a financial commitment for 2024.

That led to board member Ron Laux asking if the contract could be limited to six months. Board members then discussed whether it was wise to enter into a short contract with no guarantees beyond Dec. 31, some asking why the contract was needed at all.

County attorney Wes Schemenaur at one point likened the negotiations to a divorce settlement, saying that there were trust issues across the board and that the contract lays out the details so everyone is on the same page.

See **JCDC** page 2

## Band prepping for final 'Journey'

By **RAY COONEY**  
The Commercial Review

The Journey ends Friday.

At least, the marching band part of it.

The Jay County High School Marching Patriots will conclude their summer season Fri-

day as they take their show — Journey — to the Indiana State Fair Band Day competition.

The idea for the show grew out of a theme — faith, hope and love — that JCHS director Chuck Roesch has been think-

ing about for several years. But he was struggling to figure out how to portray and abstract concept like faith.

Through the process of thinking and researching, he stumbled upon the Maya Angelou poem "A Brave and Startling

Truth." He liked it. The speaker in the poem discusses a world free from war, racism, hate and fear that is only attainable when humanity reaches its full potential. He felt it summed up faith, hope and love.

See **'Journey'** page 5



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

## Fist bump

Cooper Wright, 6, bumps fists with Portland police officer Dustin Garringer at Hudson Family Park on Tuesday. Local law enforcement hosted National Night Out event at the park in Portland this year, drawing more than 200 people for free food and balloons as well as tours of emergency vehicles.

## Project scaled back

By **RAY COONEY**  
The Commercial Review

A planned project to renovate the restroom/concession building at Runkle-Miller Field has been scaled back at the request of the team.

Portland Park Board on Tuesday agreed to reduce the scale of the renovation project it approved early this year.

At its February meeting, the park board approved a plan that would have removed block walls to create two family restrooms that would be Americans with Disabilities Act compliant. The project also included a new three-bay sink and hot water heater for the concession area.

The facility had been the subject of discussions for 10 months at that point. Upgrades had been included in the city's five-year master park plan, but an effort to get grant funding for a new facility was unsuccessful.

Portland Rockets manager Randy Miller, Dr-

*Rockets request time to fundraise for new building*

Hall, Randy Fisher and other supporters of the team visited Tuesday's meeting to request that the project be scaled back. They expressed concern that having only the two family restrooms at the field would not be sufficient, saying crowds have reached as many as 400 this season.

Instead, they asked that existing restrooms remain as they are, with a urinal that was not functioning properly be reinstalled.

Hall said the team is hopeful to be able to raise funds in order to be able to build a new restroom, concession and press box facility behind home plate in the coming years.

After about a half-hour discussion, park board members voted to amend the approved project to include just the sink and water heater. They also agreed to have the urinal re-installed.

Board members also reviewed rules for Marion Splash House as part of their discussion about implementing stricter rules at Portland Water Park.

In June, the board discussed issues regarding fighting, underage drinking and other issues, with Brewster asking if water park staff could start doing bag checks at the door.

See **Project** page 5

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 81 degrees on Tuesday. The low early in the day was 54.

Tonight's forecast calls for a low in the mid 60s. Expect part-

ly cloudy skies Friday with a high in the mid 80s. Highs are expected to remain in the 80s through at least Sunday.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Jay County Commissioners have scheduled a special meeting for 11 a.m. Friday at Jay County Courthouse. The agenda includes the county's school resource officer agreement with Jay School Corporation. (Jay School Board approved the agreement Monday.)

### Coming up

**Friday** — Preview of the Indiana State Fair cheerleading contest.

**Saturday** — Coverage of this week's Portland Board of Works meeting.





Photo provided

## Big day

Batman takes a selfie with visitors to the inaugural Jay Community Day hosted by Jay County Fair Board on Saturday. The event focused on getting children ready for the start of school — Jay School Corporation returns to classes Aug. 10 — included distributing about 400 free backpacks and a variety of other school supplies.

## CR almanac

Friday 8/4	Saturday 8/5	Sunday 8/6	Monday 8/7	Tuesday 8/8
<b>86/62</b>	<b>83/63</b>	<b>86/64</b>	<b>79/61</b>	<b>80/59</b>
Mostly sunny skies are in the forecast Friday with a high in the mid to upper 80s.	There's a 30% chance of rain Saturday under mostly cloudy skies. Chance of thunderstorms late.	Sunday has a 50% chance of thunderstorms throughout the day.	There's a 40% chance of thunderstorms Monday under mostly cloudy skies.	Tuesday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a high near 80 degrees.

## JCDC ...

Continued from page 1  
JCDC board member Brian Alexander made the initial motion to approve the contract only for the remainder of 2023, saying he felt commissioners had made a verbal commitment to working with and funding the organization moving forward.

"I think that, at some level, you have to have trust in one another," he said. "These guys are accountable to the public, and so is the council. ... They've represented that their intention is to continue to work with JCDC. I think we have to take them at their word."

Ron Laux, Bryan Alexander, Pete Byrum, John Boggs, Jack Robbins, Mark Leavell, Barb Street, Rob Keisling, Joe Johnston, Alicia Corwin, Mary Adair and Josh Atkinson voted in favor. Mike Medler and Chad Towell voted against the agreement, with Tabby Sprunger and Cindy Bracy abstaining.

As approved the contract lays out services JCDC is expected to provide, including being a point of contact for businesses interested in locating in Jay County, recruiting new business, meeting with existing businesses to ensure their needs are being met, serving as a liaison for Jay County municipalities for grants, providing resources to the county's grant writer, assisting businesses with tax abatements and other econom-

### Contract details services to provide, financial support to be given by county

ic development activities. The organization is also required to report to county commissioners and county council on at least a quarterly basis and provide written reports at board and executive committee meetings.

The contract also requires that a member of Jay County Commissioners and Jay County Council serve on both the JCDC board and its executive committee.

The contract calls for \$41,127.49 in county funding for JCDC for the remainder of the year. (It received \$105,000 earlier this year, for a total of \$146,127.49.)

That's down from \$230,000 in 2024, with the elimination of the Jay County Community Development position that has been vacant for about a year. (Commissioners plan to hire someone to handle those duties, with Aker saying he's hopeful that process can be complete by the end of the month.)

Richards pointed out that thus far, JCDC has been expected to continue handling all of the com-

munity development duties despite the elimination of the position.

In other business, JCDC's board: •Heard and approved the 2022 audit report from Scott Bollenbacher and Hannah Hughes of Bollenbacher and Associates. They said there was no fraud or errors found as well as no deficiencies with internal controls. The board also discussed whether an audit or review should be used next year, as Bollenbacher will no longer offer audits. (Bollenbacher said he feels a review would be sufficient.)

•Reviewed its financial report. As part of that review, they discussed private contributions to JCDC, with Brian McGalliard noting that they have gone down over the years. Richards explained that they have mostly come from banks and financial institutions, with contributions going down as banks have merged or moved resources elsewhere. They also talked about the possibility of approaching local industry for financial support.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$95 billion	Evening Daily Three: 9-4-0 Daily Four: 7-9-7-2 Quick Draw: 6-12-14-15-25-26-32-33-38-42-48-51-53-56-62-65-66-76-77-79
<b>Mega Millions</b> 8-24-30-45-61 Mega Ball: 12 Megaplier: 4 Estimated jackpot: \$1.25 billion	<b>Ohio</b> Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 5-5-9 Pick 4: 9-8-0-4 Pick 5: 2-3-0-5-8 Evening Pick 3: 9-6-8 Pick 4: 8-8-4-0 Pick 5: 2-2-4-8-9 Rolling Cash: 13-19-22-35-38
<b>Hoosier</b> Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 8-1-9 Daily Four: 4-0-4-5 Quick Draw: 1-3-19-21-22-24-26-36-41-43-44-47-57-58-64-71-73-75-77-79	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....5.29 Oct. corn .....4.84 Wheat .....5.64	Sept. beans .....12.82 Wheat ..... 6.07
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn .....5.77 Oct./Nov. corn .....4.89 Dec. corn .....4.99	<b>Central States Montpelier</b> Corn.....5.41 Late Aug. corn .....5.08 Beans .....13.79 Late Aug. beans .....13.74 Wheat .....6.02
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....5.42 Sept. corn .....4.79 Beans .....13.67	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....5.23 Aug. corn .....4.65 Beans .....13.85 Aug. beans.....13.80 Wheat .....5.89

## Today in history

In 1492, explorer Christopher Columbus began his first trans-Atlantic voyage in search of a westward route to India, leaving Palos, Spain, with his three ships — the Niña, the Pinta and the Santa María.

In 1900, journalist Ernie Pyle was born near Dana, Indiana. Pyle studied journalism at Indiana University and won a Pulitzer Prize for reporting in 1944 for his coverage of the World War II campaigns in North Africa, Italy and France.

In 1977, Tom Brady was born in San Mateo, California. Brady, a sixth-round draft pick out of the University of

Michigan, led the New England Patriots to six Super Bowl victories and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers to another. He has been named Super Bowl MVP five times.

In 1998, Jay School Board hired William Jones as the new Jay County High School principal during a special meeting. Jones had served as principal at New Palestine since 1983.

In 2015, Jay School Board hired Chris Krieg as the new Jay County High School boys basketball coach. He replaced Craig Teagle, who resigned in July to take the same position at Huntington North.

—The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Thursday</b> 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.	torium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
<b>Friday</b> 11 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, audi-	<b>Monday</b> 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St., Portland.

## Capsule Reports

### Hit pedestrian

A Portland woman hit another person along Water Street about 8:30 a.m. Friday.

Eunice White, 72, was driving her 2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee east on Water Street while Laurie F. Loyd was getting her mail. White told police she thought she had moved over enough when she heard a loud noise and discovered she had struck Loyd.

Damage is estimated at less than \$1,000. Loyd complained of back pain but declined medical treatment from emergency responders.

### Off road

Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000 after an Illinois man drove off Indiana 26 and rolled his vehicle about 6 p.m. Sunday.

Joseph A. Moreno, 33, Warrenville, was driving a 2020 Ford Edge southeast on the highway and driving along the curve near Division Road when he lost control and drove off the road. The vehicle went airborne,

according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office accident report, and rolled several times. Moreno told police he was driving too fast.

The vehicle Moreno was driving — it's registered to Imperial Service Systems of Lombard, Illinois — was towed. Moreno sustained a scrape on his head.

### SERVICES

**Friday**  
**Iliff, Chad:** 11 a.m., First Church of the Nazarene, 920 S. Shank St., Portland.

**Saturday**  
**Wood, James:** 10:30 a.m., Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene, 401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery.

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# Watch out for common sports injuries

By KEVIN DOULENS

With summer wrapping up and school starting, preparing for school sporting events is in full swing. Practices have started and, with that, injuries can happen. There are injuries that are more common than others and there are steps that can be taken to help prevent these injuries.

## Your Health Matters



injury to the bones, muscles or tendons. Some common sports injuries include:

- Ankle sprain
- Plantar fasciitis
- Tennis elbow or golfer's elbow
- ACL (anterior cruciate ligament) injury/tear
- Meniscus tear
- Shoulder overuse
- Rotator cuff tear
- Stress fractures

**Preventing injuries**  
Thorough warm-ups

and stretching before any sporting activity can often prevent an overuse injury. It is often suggested to use the 10% rule — do not increase your activity or intensity by more than 10% per week. Also, mixing up the routine or avoiding the same workout or activity every day can help reduce the instance of an overuse injury. Overuse injuries account for almost half of all sports injuries in young adults. Promoting injury prevention can help prevent and reduce overuse and trauma injuries, including:

- Recognizing the importance of rest as part of being an athlete
- Having a pre-season physical
- Diligently performing warm-up and cool down routines before each activity
- Using proper strength training routines and being careful not to lift too heavy too quickly
- Drinking enough water based on activity and temperature levels
- Adhering to proper nutrition
- Using and maintaining proper equipment, including shoe wear
- Working with an athletic trainer, coach or physician if they are having any pain.

involved in sports. However, there are warning signs when a specialist should be seen:

- Inability to play following an acute injury
- Pain or decreased ability to play because of complications following an injury
- Limp, loss of motion or swelling needs to be carefully evaluated
- Visible deformity of the athlete's arm or leg and severe pain from acute injuries that prevent the use of an arm or leg are all indicators that you should seek medical intervention

Getting prompt treatment for an injury can prevent minor injuries from becoming a more serious injury or chronic problem. Sports activities are meant

to be fun and are also a good way to keep our bodies healthy. Regardless of age, warming up and stretching prior to any physical activity, including athletics and exercise, is always a good idea. In addition, receiving expert training on proper techniques, wearing appropriate and well-fitting equipment and safety gear, and abiding by the rules of the game will all go a long way toward keeping sports safe.

.....  
*Doulens is a board-certified orthopedic surgeon with elite training, specializing in sports medicine and shoulder surgery at IU Health Orthopedics and Sports Medicine in Muncie.*

# Man fights to reclaim his life from alcoholism

DEAR ABBY: I am a married man (15 years) with three children, and I am a recovering alcoholic. My marriage has been a roller coaster filled with lies, infidelity (my wife's), abuse and drinking. I am in an outpatient alcohol program to save myself, my family and my marriage.

My wife is talking to other men. She communicates via text, on social media and in person, saying it's non-sexual. She constantly tells me they are better than I am, that I'm a loser and I'll get what I deserve (meaning losing her and the children).

I still want to save my marriage. I know I have been a poor husband due to the drinking, but that is changing. I keep trying to convince her to give me a little time to prove that I can be a brand-new, sober, honest man. She says it's too late and that I pushed her into the arms of others. She says she no longer loves me and is going to divorce me. She evidently has hired an attorney.

## Dear Abby



Our children beg her all the time to not divorce me, not to seek others and to let Dad show he is changing. I'm lost, angry, hurt and anxious. I want to save my family and somehow convince her that I'm better than the person she has seen. Is the trauma too much to overcome?

— MIDDLE OF THE STORM  
**DEAR MIDDLE: Although you may desperately want to save your marriage, for your own sake, it's time to face facts. Your wife has an attorney, plans to leave the marriage and is seeing other people. She's no longer interested in saving the marriage.**

**That you are in a program to help you overcome your addiction is laudable, but**

paramount now is that you do everything you can to heal yourself. It will make you a better father to your children if you are fully present. You may need professional counseling to help you through this painful period so you can map out a better future for you and the kids.

Talk to an attorney for reassurance that your wife cannot take them from you. You already have their love. They see you are trying to better yourself. Let nothing stand in the way of that.

.....  
DEAR ABBY: My husband is addicted to our home security cameras. He, my 19-year-old daughter and I live in a townhouse, in which he has installed no fewer than 20 cameras in and around our home. He's always looking at them, when I'm on my way out to run errands or to visit my older daughter and even while we are eating dinner. He has started keeping a log of my daughter's and my activities and what our neighbors are

doing. What is wrong with him? — UNDER A MICROSCOPE IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR UNDER A MICROSCOPE: Does your husband have a job or any outside interests besides what you, your daughter and the neighbors are doing? His compulsion may be caused by insecurity, paranoia or a need to control.

Have you ASKED him why he feels the need to do this? While it's not unusual for families to install security systems in their homes, your husband's obsession is over the top. This isn't normal behavior, and something may be wrong with him.

.....  
DEAR ABBY: I live with a man who sits around the house all day. If I'm outside doing yardwork, he'll sit on the porch and watch without offering to help. He's retired and doesn't work. He's 59 and does nothing but sit up all night and sleep half the day. Any comments? — DOES IT ALL IN KENTUCKY

DEAR DOES IT ALL: Have you asked the man who is living with you for help? (I notice you did NOT refer to him as your husband.) If you have and he refused, my comment is that your porch-sitter appears to be lazy and unmotivated. He may feel that because he's no longer in the workforce, he doesn't have to do anything else until the good lord claims him, which may be sooner than he thinks if he doesn't get up and do some exercise.

In dealing with someone like him, try coming up with a way to motivate him, hire someone to help with the yardwork or trade him in for a younger, more energetic model. (I'm only half-joking about that last option.)

.....  
*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

# Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To submit an item, email news@thecr.com.

**Thursday**  
CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet the first Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North. The meal will be

served at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

**Friday**  
DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry

building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

SOFT SHOULDERS — A support group for anyone suffering from memory loss, will meet at 10:30 a.m. the first Friday of each month in the Fireplace Room at Edelweiss Place at Swiss Village in Berne. For more information, call (260) 589-3173.

CINCINNATUS LEAGUE — Will meet at noon Friday, Aug. 4, at Harmony Cafe in Portland.

**Saturday**  
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

ROAD RIDERS FOR JESUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month in the West Walnut Church of Christ fellowship hall, 204 W. Walnut St., Portland. (Please enter from the door facing the alley on the north side of the building.) For more information, call (260) 726-8463.

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland. The website is museumofthesoldier.com.

**Sunday**  
A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Sunday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal.

## Sudoku


7			3	4				
6		3	5				9	4
								1
				7				
8			4	2				3
3							6	
				3	2			
			6	1				8
			8			9	7	

Level: Intermediate

### Wednesday's Solution

4	9	3	5	7	2	8	1	6
2	8	6	1	3	9	7	5	4
7	1	5	4	8	6	3	9	2
9	4	7	3	2	5	6	8	1
5	3	1	6	4	8	9	2	7
6	2	8	7	9	1	5	4	3
1	7	4	8	5	3	2	6	9
3	5	9	2	6	4	1	7	8
8	6	2	9	1	7	4	3	5

The objective is to fill a nine-by-nine grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine three-by-three boxes (also called blocks or regions) contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.



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# Can Swift fans save public transit?

Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

All the doomsday talk about a public transit death spiral? Shake it off. Because fans going to Taylor Swift's concerts are fueling a city-by-city transit boom that points the way to reviving slumping ridership by improving service for leisure travelers and non-9-to-5 commuters.

Cities across the country have seen ridership surge from "Swifties" choosing to take transit to the star's sold-out Eras Tour. In Atlanta, nearly 140,000 people took transit to see Swift perform over three nights — that's triple the normal weekend ridership. In Chicago, the concerts generated 43,000 bus and train trips, and the system had the highest weekly ridership in three years.

And when Swift comes to SoFi Stadium in Inglewood for six shows starting Aug. 3, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority will add service and extend hours to

## Guest Editorial

accommodate some of the estimated 60,000 fans expected per performance. Metro will run shuttles to the stadium from select stations on the C line between Redondo Beach and Norwalk and the K rail line between West Adams and the LAX area. Trains throughout the system will run until around 2 a.m., rather than the usual midnight stop time.

The goal is to meet the tremendous demand concert-goers have demonstrated in other cities and woo more Angelenos and visitors to public transit for their social and leisure travel.

Big-city transit agencies have traditionally designed service for

9-to-5 work commuters. Travelers outside those peak times, including people working night or weekend shifts, picking up kids from school, going to a midday doctor's appointment, or visiting friends on a Saturday or Sunday, had longer — sometimes much longer — wait times than rush-hour riders.

That model disadvantages non-9-to-5 workers and people who rely on transit as their only mode of transportation, and it was already being reconsidered before the COVID-19 pandemic. Metro, for example, planned a major overhaul of the bus system to provide more frequent, reliable service throughout the day and on evenings and weekends.

The pandemic completely upended the business model of most public transit agencies. The rise of remote work, decline in ridership, increase in public safety concerns and falling revenue has hastened fears of the collapse

of public transit, when major systems end up cutting service, shedding more riders and losing public confidence.

But many transit agencies see growth opportunities. In Los Angeles, Metro's weekend ridership on buses and rail lines has rebounded faster than weekday travel. Weekend travel was near pre-pandemic levels in June, thanks to big weekend events for Pride Month, CicLAvia in South L.A. and the opening of the Regional Connector, which drew 100,000 people on opening day.

Metro recognizes there is a big market for off-peak and weekend travels, said Conan Cheung, chief operations officer. As the agency restores service cut during the pandemic, it's reducing the traditional wait-time disparities during peak and non-peak travel, reducing frequency in peak travel time and increasing frequency for evening and weekend riders.

MetroLink, the six-county

Southern California commuter rail network, is still well below its pre-pandemic weekday ridership, but its weekend service has bounced back. The agency is working with tourism agencies to promote Metrolink as an option for weekend outing and attracting leisure riders with special service, including running trains to last weekend's X Games at the Ventura County Fairgrounds.

Of course, a few concerts and special events alone won't save public transit. Riders won't return if the service isn't easy to use, fast and safe. But big events present an opportunity to showcase the individual and collective benefits of buses and trains, and that's important because getting people out of cars is essential to reduce emissions and fight climate change.

Metro is right to meet the Swifties with plenty of transit service, and keep it up. Beyoncé comes to town in September.

# It's not a time for isolationism

By NATE LAMAR

The mid-July summit of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Vilnius, Lithuania, was the second to take place following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. But it was the first to take place following the most recent expansion of NATO.

Finland joined in April. On July 10, Turkey's President Recep Erdogan ended his veto against Sweden. It is therefore now up to Turkey's parliament to ratify Sweden's membership.

These are challenging, though encouraging, times for an alliance that had become moribund before the war.

As a young lieutenant in Germany, I was fortunate to have an atypical assignment working at the grassroots level of NATO. Instead of being stationed at a more common Cold War-era U.S. Army unit on a compound with thousands of soldiers, civilian employees and dependents, I was the liaison/linguist officer for a detachment of 40 Americans on a Bundeswehr (German Army) base of 2,000 German soldiers and lived "on the economy" in a rural town. In such a small unit, officers wore many hats: I also served as Platoon Leader, S-2 (Intelligence Officer), Executive Officer and acting Commander.

By this time, as the Cold War was over, terrorism had become a bigger concern within NATO (IRA, PLO, ETA, etc.). Having earlier graduated from the individual terrorism awareness course at the JFK Special Warfare Center at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, I taught counter-terrorism within our Group, whose area covered much of two German states. My unit was inactivated in 1992, at which point I chose to depart active duty, was honorably discharged, and returned home to begin my civilian career and, later, MBA school.

Many more Cold War-era units in Germany were inactivated during this same period. As a result, NATO became a hollowed-out alliance, with most allies spending less and less on their defense (the so-called "Peace Dividend"). While it was refreshing to see many for-

Nate LaMar



merly Communist countries gain their freedom, with most becoming NATO members, many allies became dependent on Russian petroleum.

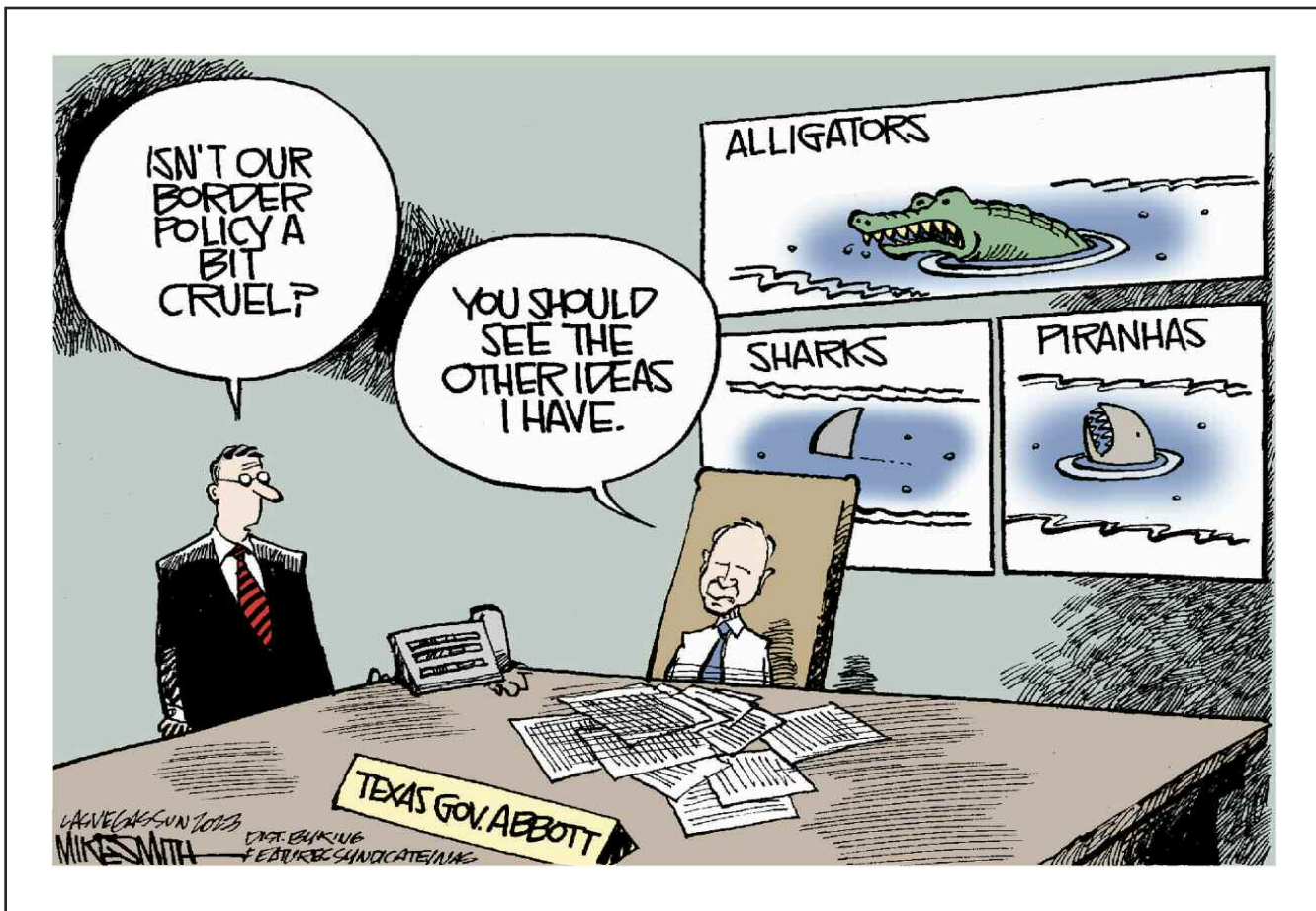
Many of these newly free NATO members partnered with various National Guards. For example, the Indiana National Guard helped train Slovakia's army, while the California National Guard helped train Ukraine's army.

Having watched the NATO public forum simulcast from Vilnius, I was reminded that Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia are true frontiers of freedom. In fact, Vilnius is located about halfway between the border with Belarus, a Russian ally, and Kaliningrad, the Russian enclave on the Baltic Sea. Among the panelists were Senators Thom Tillis (R-North Carolina) and Jeanne Shaheen (D-New Hampshire), who co-chair the U.S. Senate NATO Observers Group. They were joined by a French senator and the speaker of Lithuania's senate. All stated that China is watching NATO's response to Russia's war in Ukraine very closely. Could Taiwan be next?

As I now represent my employer on NATO's Industrial Advisory Group (NIAG), I am reminded that next year's NATO Summit will take place in Washington, D.C. At that time, our country will be in the midst of a presidential election that could include an isolationist as one of the major party nominees. This is clearly not the time to turn back the clock to 1920s/1930s isolationism.

Putin invaded Georgia in 2008 and Crimea in 2014. The world did nothing. Every time history repeats itself, the price goes up. Ukraine needs us and NATO needs our continued leadership of the alliance.

.....  
*LaMar, an international manager, also served as Henry County Council president from 2009 to 2019.*



# Does it matter who gets in?

By ALLISON SCHRAGER

Bloomberg Opinion  
Tribune News Service

Too many Americans — and too many American economists in particular — have an unhealthy obsession with the 1%: how much money they make, how much wealth they have, how they got there, how to join their ranks, and so on.

Rising economic inequality is a real problem, and there are understandable reasons for this fixation. But the U.S. would be better off focusing on more important challenges, such as how to increase productivity or improve the economic prospects of the bottom 50%.

The latest manifestation of the inequality obsession is the debate over the admissions policies of a handful of elite schools. Last week a new research paper addressed the issue of the 1% directly: It estimates that while children of lower-income families have slightly better odds of getting into elite schools (assuming they have similar scores) than upper middle-class students, children of the 1% have a much better chance than everyone else. This is an issue that is elite almost by definition, since most colleges and universities don't have highly selective admissions.

There are other issues where the debate is too centered on the competition between the upper middle class and the rich. Consider the discussion of urban housing, which is increasingly focused on why desirable areas of many cities are so expensive, or the attention paid to student loan debt rather than other forms of debt that keep more vulnerable members of society down.

The discussion inevitably affects policy, resulting in student debt relief, an expansion of the child income tax credit to higher earners, industrial

Allison Schrager



policy for highly skilled jobs, even a regulatory crackdown on artificial intelligence. True, some of these programs also benefit lower-income people, but if that were the goal they could be better targeted.

It is also true that the difference between the upper middle class and super rich is more of an economic issue than it used to be, because more people are in the upper middle class. One of the most striking trends in inequality has been the hollowing out of the middle class since the 1970s.

According to a study from the Pew Research Center, the middle class shrank 11 percentage points between 1971 and 2014, from 61% to 50%. Most of the decline was due to Americans joining the upper middle class, defined as earning at least three times the median income. The other striking trend was the growth in income of the top 5% — especially the top 0.01%. The difference in earnings between someone in the top 10% and someone in the top 1% is much larger. So maybe making it to the top 10% no longer feels like enough for many people, and they are obsessed with improving their status (and becoming more unhappy).

Another possible explanation for the obsession with the 1%, offered by one of the economists who wrote the paper on admissions, is that they have extraordinary influence and power in U.S. society. This justifies increased attention and scrutiny.

But it is important to note that the American system is not completely rigged. The average salary of an Ivy League graduate and someone from a good state school is not very different. Most of the CEOs from top Fortune 500 companies went to high-quality state schools such as Texas A&M. Yes, being born in the top 1% certainly increases the odds of going to an elite school, and going to an elite school increases the odds of earning a 1% salary. But this is in large part because so much job recruitment takes place at top schools, where students also have higher expectations of what they are entitled to achieve.

But the data also suggest a simple solution: Top graduate schools and employers should expand their recruiting, because clearly there are talented students everywhere.

To be clear, I'm not against making it easier for people to become part of the 1%; I wouldn't mind joining myself. But the competition between the very rich and the very very rich is not the most pressing issue of our time. America's resources are not unlimited, and we should focus on problems that not only reflect our values but also promote general prosperity.

More Americans may be upper middle class than ever before, but there is still a significant population falling further behind. If the goal is broader prosperity and mobility, then America should worry less about admissions to elite schools — and more about K-12 education, job retraining, and making the labor market more fluid for people who didn't happen to go to the right school. Better to focus on the question of how the bottom 30% can make it into the top 70% than how the top 10% can join the top 1%.

# The Commercial Review



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—Thomas Jefferson

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Mail: Monthly auto-pay - \$13; 13 weeks - \$47; six months - \$78; one year - \$147.

Home delivery problems: Call (260) 251-9588

VOLUME 150-NUMBER 67  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2023

www.thecr.com

The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

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## Super ...

Continued from page 1  
The entirety of the 2020 summer band season was canceled because of the coronavirus pandemic, which broke out in the U.S. in March of that year.

For McManus, this marks her fifth year with the Marching Patriots despite losing her sophomore season. (In addition to staying as a “super senior,” she got started early during her eighth grade year as she took part in 2018’s Sideshow.)

Though it’s his fourth year of marching band, Charles is back to actually marching for the first time since 2019. After the 2020 campaign was called off, he spent the last two years atop a ladder directing Jay County’s band as one of its drum majors.

“I feel like I’m having more fun while marching,” said Charles.

He had not planned on coming back, but said he changed his mind because director Chuck Roesch is “one of the best teachers I’ve ever had.”

“He gets personal with you,” Charles said. “He talks to you one on one.”

From the director’s perspective, super seniors are a gift.

Roesch said in the anatomy of a band, the young kids tend to serve as the heartbeat, bringing the energy. The older members of the group provide the wisdom of experience.

And although the super seniors aren’t eligible for official student leadership positions, they lead by way of example and influence.

This year’s large group is well distributed across the band, with Ardizzone and Wickey as the only pair to share the same section (saxophone). Charles stepped down from the ladder to play mellophone, McManus is a snare drummer, Stauffer plays flute, Baldwin is in the trumpet section and Ransom plays trombone.

“In all my years of experience as a director, you can’t ever count on a super senior coming back,” said Roesch, noting the time commitment. “But when they do, it says an awful lot about their confidence in the program, their confidence in the staff and how much they just deeply care about the activity. I look at that as a sign of a healthy organization. ...

“It’s a blessing for the rest of the kids to get to spend another summer with them.”

Ardizzone sees it the other way around — being a part of the band has meant so much to his life.

He described his younger self as “that nerdy, quiet kid, didn’t have many friends, socially awkward and just kind of stuck to myself.” On his first day of band, though, he said, he made five new friends. He started opening up.

“I was a totally new person in a span of six weeks,” he said.

In June, that once quiet kid stood in front of a packed gym, giving a graduation speech that had the crowd cheering.

Ardizzone knew during his freshman season that he would want to come back for a super senior year.

“Because I can’t imagine a summer without band,” he said. “Band has done so much for me as a person. I’m never gonna forget what band has done for me, ever ...

“I’ve had so many good memories with band,” Ardizzone added. “And I felt that I owed the band somehow, so I came back one last time.”



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

The giant flag that reads “My Destiny” flies over the Jay County High School Marching Patriots’ color guard members Tuesday night during the band’s Indiana State Fair preview performance. JCHS will take the track for competition at the state fair at 2:09 p.m. Friday. Preliminary awards are at 4:30 p.m., with the top 16 returning for finals at 8 p.m.

## ‘Journey’ ...

Continued from page 1  
And when he played a recording of Angelou reading the poem for the 50th anniversary of the United Nations alongside the music that composer Alex Yoder had written, everything fell into place.

“It timed up exactly with the first hit of the show,” Roesch said.

Incorporating the poem — the recording of Angelou’s voice is played at intervals during the show — got the Marching Patriots off and running. They use foot bridges to symbolize the journey, and a fly-over late in the show indicates achieving the ultimate destiny.

For some, that moment is when the show hits its apex.

“My favorite part is when all of the bridges are out and the flyover goes over,” said senior color guard member Audrey Hummer. “It just all puts everything together.”

“When you see the flyover, it says, ‘My Destiny,’” added senior Trenton Franks, who is a member of the front ensemble. “And that can be kind of summed up into our show. It’s the destiny of who you are.”

Franks also hinted that his section may be working on some additional

surprises for Friday’s competition.

At the Indiana State Fair, the Marching Patriots will take to the track in front of the grandstand for preliminary competition at 2:09 p.m. Preliminary awards are scheduled for 4:30 p.m., with the top 16 bands returning for the finals at 8 p.m.

After finishing seventh at the state fair last year, Jay County seems primed to climb back into the top five. (They were third each year from 2016 through ’19 and fourth in 2021.)

The Marching Patriots opened the summer season with a second-place finish at home in the Jay

County Lions Band Contest and have since finished third in Muncie Spirit of Sound, fifth in the Anderson Tartan Tournament of Bands and fourth in the Drums at Winchester.

Defending Indiana State Fair champion Kokomo is undefeated on the summer and is the favorite to repeat, though Muncie Central has been hot on its heels. Jay County looks to be in the mix for the next several spots along with Anderson, Richmond and Centerville. Those four bands have finished in various orders behind in the No. 3 through 5 spots all summer.

While Roesch and various band members acknowledged the hope to place as high as possible, the ultimate goal for Friday doesn’t hinge on scores or ordinals.

“Everybody going out there and giving their all,” said senior flute player Alexander Smith. “Going in, being prepared and just running with the ball, and having fun while doing it.”

“I want to be able to walk off that field, both day show and night show, cheering everybody on, patting people on the back and saying, ‘We did it.’ I want to feel like it’s the best show I’ve ever done.”

## A Brave and Startling Truth

The Jay County High School Marching Patriots’ 2023 show — Journey — is based on the Maya Angelou poem “A Brave and Startling Truth.” Angelou composed it for the 50th anniversary of the United Nations in 1995. She dedicated it to “the hope for peace, which lies, sometimes hidden, in every heart.”

*We, this people, on a small and lonely planet  
Traveling through casual space  
Past aloof stars, across the way of indifferent suns  
To a destination where all signs tell us  
It is possible and imperative that we learn  
A brave and startling truth*

*And when we come to it  
To the day of peacemaking  
When we release our fingers  
From fists of hostility  
And allow the pure air to cool our palms*

*When we come to it  
When the curtain falls on the minstrel show of hate  
And faces sooted with scorn are scrubbed clean  
When battlefields and coliseum  
No longer rake our unique and particular sons and daughters  
Up with the bruised and bloody grass  
To lie in identical plots in foreign soil*

*When the rapacious storming of the churches  
The screaming racket in the temples have ceased  
When the pennants are waving gaily  
When the banners of the world tremble  
Stoutly in the good, clean breeze*

*When we come to it  
When we let the rifles fall from our shoulders  
And children dress their dolls in flags of truce  
When land mines of death have been removed  
And the aged can walk into evenings of peace  
When religious ritual is not perfumed  
By the incense of burning flesh  
And childhood dreams are not kicked awake  
By nightmares of abuse*

*When we come to it  
Then we will confess that not the Pyramids  
With their stones set in mysterious perfection  
Nor the Gardens of Babylon  
Hanging as eternal beauty  
In our collective memory  
Not the Grand Canyon*

*Kindled into delicious color  
By Western sunsets*

*Nor the Danube, flowing its blue soul into Europe  
Not the sacred peak of Mount Fuji  
Stretching to the Rising Sun  
Neither Father Amazon nor Mother Mississippi who, without favor,  
Nurture all creatures in the depths and on the shores  
These are not the only wonders of the world*

*When we come to it  
We, this people, on this minuscule and kithless globe  
Who reach daily for the bomb, the blade and the dagger  
Yet who petition in the dark for tokens of peace  
We, this people on this mote of matter  
In whose mouths abide cankerous words  
Which challenge our very existence  
Yet out of those same mouths  
Come songs of such exquisite sweetness  
That the heart falters in its labor  
And the body is quieted into awe*

*We, this people, on this small and drifting planet  
Whose hands can strike with such abandon  
That in a twinkling, life is sapped from the living  
Yet those same hands can touch with such healing, irresistible tenderness  
That the haughty neck is happy to bow  
And the proud back is glad to bend  
Out of such chaos, of such contradiction  
We learn that we are neither devils nor divines*

*When we come to it  
We, this people, on this wayward, floating body  
Created on this earth, of this earth  
Have the power to fashion for this earth  
A climate where every man and every woman  
Can live freely without sanctimonious piety  
Without crippling fear*

*When we come to it  
We must confess that we are the possible  
We are the miraculous, the true wonder of this world  
That is when, and only when  
We come to it.*

## Project ...

Continued from page 1  
Water park manager Eliza Bader said there have also been problems with vaping and marijuana use on the property. She also suggested implementing an age restriction to make sure young children are not coming to the pool unattended.

The Splash House rules require anyone younger than 13 to be accompanied by an adult. They also ban alcohol, tobacco and drugs and require that all bags be searched.

Board members plan to

review the rules with plans to implement their own updates for the 2024 season.

Bader reported that 127 family passes and 43 single passes have been sold this year, pool rentals have been fully booked and a week of swimming lessons drew more than 60 students.

She also told the board that she is interested in continuing as the water park manager next year.

The board also accepted the donation of a water fountain for

Hudson Family Park from the Goodrich Family Foundation.

Emily Goodrich told the board the foundation wanted to make the donation in honor of her parents, John and Sarona Goodrich. The piece of equipment will include a conventional drinking fountain, a water bottle filler and a fountain at ground level for pets.

Plans are to install the fountain along the walking trail in an area nearby the dog park.

Parks department employee Matt Shauver told the board

that city crews spent about seven hours cleaning up debris in Haynes Park following Saturday’s storm. He said plans were to begin work on the Kelly Bags Nature Trail on Wednesday.

Shauver also noted that the motor that runs the filtration system at Portland Water Park is nearing the end of its life. A new motor is estimated at \$16,000, but he said he’s hopeful that the existing motor could be refurbished.

In other business, the board:

• Heard from Shauver that new pickleball courts to be constructed at Milton Miller Park are expected to be complete this month.

• Reviewed options for new playground equipment at Haynes Park. The board took no action but will consider the upgrading equipment as it plans future capital improvement projects.

• Learned from Shauver that shuffleboard courts at Portland Memorial Park have been painted.



Levi Willmann, pictured, showed the grand champion ewe July 12 during the Jay County 4-H sheep show. Kylinn Myers, pictured at right, showed the grand champion market lamb.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

# Myers, Willmann lead way at sheep show

A pair of hamp sheep stole the show this year. Kylinn Myers showed the grand champion market lamb and Levi Willmann showed the grand champion ewe at the 4-H Sheep Show on July 12. Willmann was named advanced showman, taking home wins for showing the champion dorset advantage and southdown ewes as well as the champion whiteface cross market lamb. Myers was named intermediate showman and showed the reserve grand champion ewe, a dorper, the reserve grand champion market lamb, a natural-colored market lamb, and the champion blackface cross market lamb. Other results were as follows:

- Dorset advantage Reserve champion: Ayden Spadlin
- Hamp Champion: Levi Willmann
- Natural-colored Champion: Carter Link Reserve champion: Tinley Walker
- Commercial blackface Champion: Ella Stockton Reserve champion: Tinley Walker
- Class 9 1. Levi Willmann
- Class 10 1. Ella Stockton 2. Elizabeth Link
- Class 11 1. Tinley Walker 2. Luke Fugiett 3. Ayden Spadlin

- Whiteface cross Champion: Trevin Dunnington
- Market lambs Dorset Champion: Ty Paxson Reserve champion: Levi Willmann
- Hamp Champion: Kylinn Myers Reserve champion: Madi Paxson
- Class 16 3. Tinley Walker 4. Levi Willmann 5. Elizabeth Link
- Horned dorset 1. Ty Paxson
- Natural-colored Grand champion: Kylinn Myers Reserve champion: Ella Stockton

- Class 18 1. Jenna Walker 2. Kenzly Blunk 3. Levi Willmann
- Class 19 3. Ayden Spadlin
- Shrop Grand champion: Ella Stockton Reserve champion: Trevin Dunnington
- Class 20 3. Madi Paxson
- Southdown Champion: Ty Paxson
- Blackface cross Reserve champion: Ella Stockton
- Class 22 3. Jenna Walker 4. Kadilynn Stout

- Class 23 1. Tinley Walker 2. Madi Paxson 3. Carter Link 4. Ayden Spadlin
- Whiteface cross Reserve champion: Luke Fugiett
- Class 24 3. Dillon Dunnington
- Rate of gain 1. Jenna Walker 2. Kadilynn Stout 3. Ty Paxson
- Showmanship Junior: Kenzly Blunk Senior: Ella Stockton
- Reserve showmanship Junior: Jenna Walker Intermediate: Tinley Walker Senior: Madi Paxson Advanced: Ella Stockton



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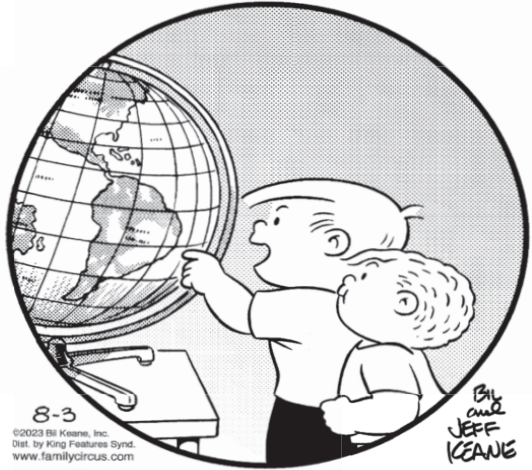
### SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



### THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



### Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

#### The right play at the right time

South dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♠ 6 4 2  
♥ Q 10 4  
♦ 9 7 4 3  
♣ A 7 3

**WEST**  
♠ Q J 10 8  
♥ 6 2  
♦ K 10 5  
♣ J 10 6 2

**EAST**  
♠ 9 7 3  
♥ A 5  
♦ Q 8 6 2  
♣ K 9 5 4

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K 5  
♥ K J 9 8 7 3  
♦ A J  
♣ Q 8

The bidding:  
South 1♥ West Pass North 2♥ East Pass

one of his losers on dummy's ace of clubs.  
Accordingly, South took the spade lead with the ace and played the king of hearts to dislodge the ace. He expected that dummy's Q-10 of trump would then provide him with the two entries he needed to accomplish his purpose. But East ducked the king of hearts and thereby foiled South's plan. Declarer could not recover from this setback and eventually finished down one.  
South could and should have made the contract by leading the seven of trump to dummy's ten at trick two! East can do no better than win with the ace and return a spade.

Opening lead — queen of spades.  
There is usually very little difference between playing a hand well and playing a hand perfectly, but occasionally this slight difference has a substantial effect on the outcome.

West led a spade against four hearts, and South, seeing four probable losers — one of which had to be averted for the contract to be made — decided that his only real chance was to find East with the king of clubs. Declarer hoped to establish a 10th trick by leading a low club from dummy toward his queen, planning later to discard

Declarer wins, leads the eight of trump to dummy's queen and returns a low club, taken by East's king. The defenders cash their spade trick, but South is home free. Whatever is returned, he wins, cashes the queen of clubs, leads the three of trump to dummy's four and discards the jack of diamonds on the ace of clubs.  
Observe that East cannot stop the contract by refusing to take dummy's ten of trump at trick two. South counters by leading a low club from dummy at trick three and later, after driving out the heart ace, leads the heart eight to dummy's queen to produce the same outcome.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.  
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### Peanuts



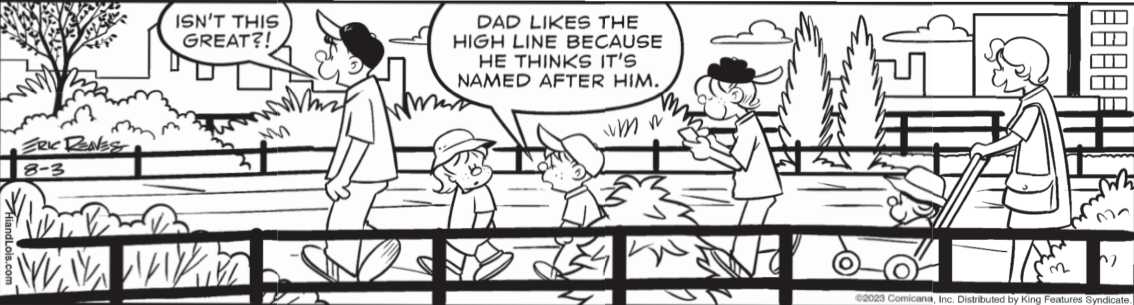
### Rose is Rose



### Agnes



### Hi and Lois



### Between Friends



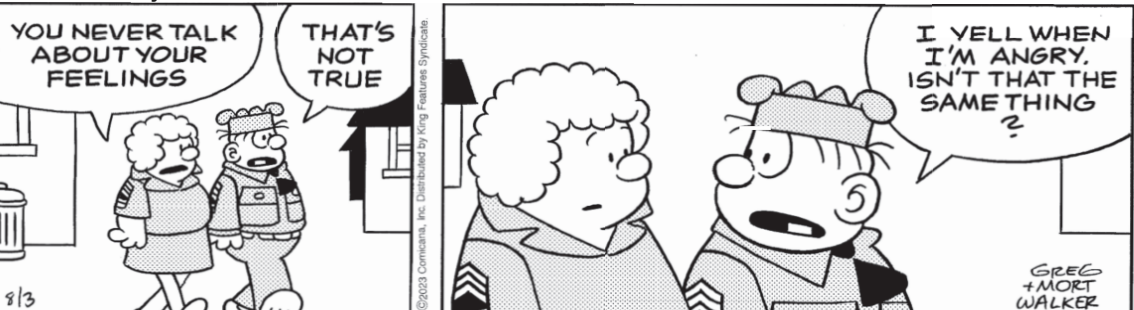
### Blondie



### Snuffy Smith



### Beetle Bailey



### 8-3

### CRYPTOQUIP

NDH ECV QRKHYE' IHHNJAZ  
PCWQV ZC CA XCY R UHYK  
QCAZ NJIH. NDHK DRUH R  
QCN CX ZYCWAV NC PCUHY.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE THE FRY COOK REALLY ABHORS THE TASK OF COATING THE ONION RINGS, HE IS DREADING BREADING.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals H

### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

<b>ACROSS</b>	<b>38</b> Desert haven	<b>56</b> "Frozen" snow queen	<b>11</b> C&W artist McEntire
<b>1</b> Round Table titles	<b>40</b> Mac alternative	<b>DOWN</b>	<b>16</b> Trench
<b>5</b> Apiece	<b>41</b> Museum artifact	<b>1</b> Quarrel	<b>22</b> Thick carpets
<b>9</b> —	<b>43</b> Desert plants	<b>2</b> Debtors' notes	<b>23</b> Dorothy's dog
<b>12</b> Ritz	<b>47</b> "Evil Woman" gp.	<b>3</b> Alpha-betic sequence	<b>24</b> \$ dispenser
<b>13</b> Petty of "Tank Girl"	<b>48</b> Sig-nature	<b>4</b> Coastal areas	<b>25</b> Chinese chairman
<b>14</b> Salt Lake athlete	<b>51</b> Rap sheet abbr.	<b>5</b> Yale students	<b>26</b> Car buyer's aid
<b>15</b> Aviation aid	<b>52</b> Cauldron concoction	<b>6</b> ISP giant	<b>27</b> Spiced tea
<b>17</b> Bar bill	<b>53</b> Peter Fonda role	<b>7</b> —	<b>29</b> German article
<b>18</b> Distress	<b>54</b> ISP giant	<b>8</b> Blackjack call	<b>30</b> Lush
<b>19</b> Do-re-mi	<b>55</b> Ledge	<b>9</b> Coin-op eateries	<b>35</b> "Bali —"
<b>21</b> Alien, for short		<b>10</b> And others (Lat.)	<b>37</b> Amass
<b>22</b> Mirror fogger			<b>39</b> Union foes
<b>24</b> You love (Lat.)			<b>40</b> Boxer
<b>27</b> Comedian Margaret			<b>41</b> 500 sheets
<b>28</b> Crazes			<b>42</b> Lodge members
<b>31</b> Greek cross			<b>43</b> Wail
<b>32</b> Chapeau			<b>44</b> Use a phone
<b>33</b> Eastern path			<b>45</b> Tarzan's clique
<b>34</b> Closet invader			<b>46</b> — butter
<b>36</b> In the past			<b>49</b> Swiss canton
<b>37</b> Admin. aide			<b>50</b> — Aviv

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

Yesterday's answer 8-3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12					13				14		
15					16				17		
18							19	20			
		21			22	23					
24	25	26			27			28	29	30	
31					32				33		
34			35		36				37		
		38			39			40			
41	42					43			44	45	46
47					48	49	50				
51					52				53		
54					55				56		

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## First forehands

Junior Eli Dirksen hits a ball during the Jay County High School boys tennis practice on Tuesday. Dirksen is one of six returning starters for the boys tennis team that won the 2022 sectional.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## Vying ...

Continued from page 10

**2. Pitching help:** Hunter Greene could return to the starting rotation later this month, while Nick Lodolo could return by Sept. 1. The Reds rank 25th in baseball with a 4.62 ERA on the season, but they

have the best ERA (3.17) since the All-Star break.

**3. Awesome Abbott:** Rookie Andrew Abbott (6-2, 1.90 ERA), who starts Monday's series opener, has the third-lowest ERA in franchise history since 1912 after 10 starts. Only

Tom Browning (1.65 in 1984-85) and Jim Konstanty (1.89 in 1944) have been better.

**4. Speed factor:** The Reds are tied with the Tampa Bay Rays for the Major League lead in stolen bases (120). That's

their highest total since they stole 120 in 2017. The Reds haven't led the National League since they stole 134 bases in 2015.

**5. Determined:** The Reds are tied for the MLB lead with 35 comeback victories. They have

won 17 games in their last at-bat and have six walk-off victories.

**6. Confidence:** Although the Reds have struggled to beat the Braves, the best team in the league, and the Brewers, they are 4-2 against

the Dodgers (59-45), who own the NL's second-best record, with two series victories.

"We're still a young team," manager David Bell said, "so to be able to have success against some of the best teams in the game is really important."

## Advances ...

Continued from page 10  
"It does not concern me at all, actually. I'm very confident with the group that we have," he repeated Tuesday.

"It's not like we don't have the pieces."  
One piece that will be missing Sunday is midfielder Rose Lavelle, who played her first full game since April but was ineffective and drew her second yellow card in as many matches, meaning she'll be suspended for the round of 16. It's also a group that looks as if it should be playing

with name tags, so unfamiliar do the players seem with one another.

But it's the team Andonovski brought to New Zealand, one that includes a U.S.-record 14 World Cup rookies and three starters who came here with fewer than 20 international caps.

Andonovski hasn't just ignored metaphorical alarm bells, though. After a pro-U.S. crowd of 42,958 booed the team off the field at the end of the first half, real alarm bells started blaring seconds into the second half when a

fire alarm went off, accompanied by verbal instructions to leave the stadium immediately.

Nobody went anywhere, but the warning, which continued for an annoying four minutes, seemed appropriate. Before Tuesday, the only time the U.S. has finished anywhere but first in their group was 2011. The Americans rallied to make the tournament final that year before losing to Japan, still the only team to win a World Cup without winning its group.

One person who did seem visi-

bly concerned about the U.S. performance was defender Kelley O'Hara, a four-time World Cup player and two-time champion. She gathered the team in a huddle after Tuesday's draw and delivered what appeared to be a passionate message. Asked about that afterward, however, she stuck to the company line: Everything's fine.

"I just told them, 'Listen guys, we did what we had to do. This game's done. We advanced. That's the name of the game: Get out of your group and then go from

there,' " she said. "This is in the rearview and the only thing that we're looking at and focused on is the round of 16."

She did offer a candid answer when asked whether the U.S. can win the next one if it doesn't play better than it did in the last one.

"I don't know, man," she said. Later this week the team will check out of its 17-story hotel overlooking Auckland's scenic harbor and head for Melbourne, not Sydney, where they are almost certain to play Sweden, not Italy or Argentina.

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Friday**  
Fort Recovery — Football scrimmage at Antwerp — 6 p.m.

### TV sports

**Today**  
6 a.m. — Women's World Cup: Colombia vs. Morocco (FS1)  
6 a.m. — Women's World Cup: Germany vs. Korea Republic (FOX)  
7 p.m. — Basketball: The Basketball Tournament (ESPN)  
8 p.m. — MLB: Pittsburgh Pirates at Milwaukee Brewers (FOX)

8 p.m. — NFL: New York Jets at Cleveland Browns (NBC)  
8 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Chicago Cubs (Bally Indiana)  
9 p.m. — Motorsports: Berlin Raceway (ESPN)

**Friday**  
3:30 p.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Cabo Wabo 250 (USA)  
6 p.m. — Motorsports: ARCA Menards Series Michigan (FS1)  
6:30 p.m. — MLB: Washington Nationals vs. Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)  
7 p.m. — WNBA: Los Angeles Sparks at Washington Mystics (ION)

8 p.m. — WNBA: New York Liberty at Minnesota Lynx (ION)

### Local notes

**Hunt applications open**  
The Indiana Department of Natural Resources is accepting applications for reserved hunts.  
Applications can be made for dove, deer, squirrel, teal and goose hunts. Hunters will be selected through a random drawing.  
To apply, visit on.IN.gov/reserved-hunt. The deadline is Aug. 6.

### Flag football registration open

Registration for Jay Community Center's Boomer Fall Flag Football is now open.

The league is for children ages 3 through 12. Games will be played on Saturdays from Aug. 26 through Oct. 7 at Jay County Recreation Complex, 5363 W. 450 South, Portland.

Registration is \$30 for those who sign up by July 31. For more information, visit jaycc.org.

**Soccer sign-ups available now**  
Registration for Jay Community Center's Boomer Fall Soccer league is now open.  
The league is for children ages 3

through 14. Games will be played on Saturdays from Aug. 26 through Oct. 7 at Jay County Recreation Complex, 5363 W. 450 South, Portland.

Registration is \$60 for those who sign up by July 31. For more information, visit jaycc.org.

### JC season tickets

Season tickets are available for the 2023-24 Jay County high school season. Tickets may be purchased during the school's office hours from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Patriots Passes and Senior Patriot Passes that provide admission to all high school and junior high events will be

available. They cost \$105 and \$60 respectively.

Also available are super tickets. High school adult super tickets cost \$80, junior high super tickets come out to \$60 and senior super tickets are \$45.

A pre-paid sports pass that is good for 12 regular season events may be purchased for \$50 as well.

Boys basketball and football season passes will cost \$50 and \$25 respectively.

To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@theocr.com.

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### 90 SALE CALENDAR

**PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY, August 5, 2023**  
TIME 10:00 A.M.  
LOCATED: 9660 W 300 S Dunkirk, IN  
Open House Sunday, July 23rd from 1-3 pm or for private showing contact the auctioneers.  
**REAL ESTATE**  
40 acre farm located in section 35 Knox township, Jay County Indiana. Offered in two tracts and entirety. Tract 1- 2/3 bedroom home containing 1988 sq ft. 80\*44ft pole barn, utility shed nicely situated on 2.1 acres. Tract 2- 38 acres with 27 acres tillable balance being wooded, frontage on county rd 300 S.  
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Check AuctionZip for more photos.

### 90 SALE CALENDAR

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: Women's Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E Votaw Street, Portland IN  
Thursday Afternoon AUGUST 3, 2023 5:30 P.M..  
**HOUSEHOLD GOODS-OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS-TOOLS**  
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### 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

## Public Notice

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES: NOTICE OF

### SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of the Superior Court of Jay County, Indiana, in Cause No. 38D01-2304-MF-000010 wherein NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing was Plaintiff, and Zachary Parrish was the Defendant, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and costs, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 7th day of September, 2023, at the hour of 10:00 AM or as soon thereafter as is possible at the Jay County Sheriff's Department 120 North Court Street, 3rd Floor Courthouse, Portland, IN 47371 in Jay County, Indiana, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jay County, Indiana.

Real Estate located in Dunkirk, Jay County, Indiana and described as follow, to-wit: Lot numbered Thirty (30) in Westview Addition, an addition to the City of Dunkirk, Indiana. More commonly known as 603 Layne Dr, Dunkirk, IN 47336 Parcel No. 38-09-08-304-052.000-014

Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.

Larry R. Newtown Jr. Sheriff Phillip A. Norman #13734-64 Benjamin J. Pliskie #30407-45 PHILLIP A. NORMAN P.C. The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein. CR 8-3,10,17-2023 - HISPAXLP

## JC golf drops season opener

DECATUR — Maddy Snow came to the golf course ready to begin the season.

The junior led the Patriots to a fifth-place finish and earned a ribbon.

The Jay County High School girls golf team finished fifth with a score of 491 in the Belmont Invitational on Tuesday morning at Cross Creek Golf Club.

Norwell won the invitational with a score of 369 while Jay County was able to edge out sixth-place Garrett by eight strokes. Allen County Athletic Conference rivals Bluffton (429) and Adams Central (459) finished third and fourth respectively.

Snow shot a 50 on the front nine setting her up for sixth in the meet, before a 56 on the back dropped her score. She ended with a final score of 106 strokes, tied for 11th in the invitational with Meghan Pettibone of Belmont. Norwell's Meghan Pettibone was the match medalist with a score of 86.

First-year golfers Whitney McIntire and Brooklyn Bright both finished one stroke off of each other and were the second and third scorers for Jay County. McIntire shot a 127 while Bright had 128.

The final contributor to the team score was Meah Devoe who shot 130 on the day.

Brooklynn Zimmerman's score of 137 did not count towards the final.

## Sims swings

Gage Sims backhands a ball during a drill at the Jay County High School boys tennis practice Tuesday evening. As part of the drill, coach Donald Gillespie tossed balls for players to hit fore or backhand and called out which side of the court to aim for.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## U.S. barely advances

By KEVIN BAXTER  
Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

AUCKLAND, New Zealand — The most alarming thing about the national soccer team's performance Tuesday didn't come on the field, where the U.S. stumbled through a lifeless, listless and passionless draw with Portugal.

It wasn't in the group table, which showed the Americans finishing second for just the second time in nine women's World Cups, nor in the record, which showed the U.S. winning just once in three games and collecting five points, its worst-ever World Cup performance.

All of that was concerning. But what was alarming happened afterward, when many of the players declared their mission accomplished because they had squeezed into Sunday's knockout round by the slimmest of margins.

A performance that would have been embarrassing to previous editions of the national team was being celebrated by this one.

"We're moving on to the next round. We're moving on to the round of 16," Alex Morgan said.

"We got through to the next round," Lynn Williams added. "I wish we would have won. But at the end of the day, that doesn't really matter. It's just getting through to the knockout stages."

That, of course, is true. The unbeaten U.S. (1-0-2) came within the width of a goalpost of being eliminated when Portugal's Ana Capeta hit the right post with a stoppage-time shot that would have sent Portugal, a World Cup debutante, on and sent the U.S., a four-time champion, home. But the Americans lived to see another day.

They may be on life support, suffering from wounds terminal and self-inflicted, but they're still alive.

"I'm not concerned at all," Lindsey Horan said.

A bit of context here: Horan is the team captain.

The top-ranked U.S. came into Tuesday's game leading the group on goal differential over the Netherlands. If it beat No. 21 Portugal and protected its two-score edge in the differential, it would win the group.

The Dutch served notice early in the evening that wasn't going to happen, scoring four times in the first 23 minutes of its 7-0 rout of Vietnam.

No worries. A draw against a Portuguese team that the U.S. had beaten 10 times in 10 tries, outscoring them 39-0, would suffice. That almost didn't happen either, with Portugal outpossessing and outpacing the sloppy Americans and nearly grabbing what would have been a well-earned win on Capeta's shot.

Portuguese coach Francisco Neto thought it obvious that his team deserved to win. For his part U.S. coach Vlatko Andonovski continued to ignore the obvious, parroting the same lines he's used since arriving in New Zealand.

"I'm not worried about it. I don't think anyone on the staff is worried," he said after last month's sloppy opener, which ended in a win over Vietnam.

"We're just going to get better from game to game," he promised after the second game, a draw with the Netherlands.

That promise didn't pan out since the U.S. regressed considerably against Portugal. Yet Andonovski stuck with his "what, me worry?" routine.

See **Advances** page 9

## Reds vying for NL Central crown

By DAVID JABLONSKI  
Springfield News-Sun (Ohio)  
Tribune News Service

No one who started for the Cincinnati Reds on Aug. 1, 2012, the last time the franchise owned a lead in the National League Central division entering this month until now, is still in the big leagues 11 years later.

Joey Votto was on the disabled list, which was renamed the injured list in 2019, at that time. His fill-in at first base, Todd Frazier, retired in 2022. Zack Cozart, Drew Stubbs, Jay Bruce, etc. are long gone. Scott Rolen was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame this summer.

While the 2012 Reds are a distant memory, the 2023 Reds (58-49) are building new memories every week with a surprising run at a playoff berth. They took a half-game lead over the Milwaukee Brewers (57-49) on Sunday with a 9-0 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

"This is what we play for," Reds first baseman

Joey Votto told reporters in Los Angeles. "It's what our roster's moving toward. We're excited to compete, and hopefully it's going to drive us toward big winning moments in September and beyond."

The Reds start a four-game series against the Chicago Cubs (53-52) on Monday at Wrigley Field. The Reds return home Friday to begin a six-game homestand against the Washington Nationals (44-62) and Miami Marlins (57-49).

Can the Reds, who finished 62-100 last year, stay on top of the division in the final two months? No team has ever won a division title one year after losing at least 100 games. Here are six reasons the Reds could become the first:

### 1. Schedule help:

The Reds are 3-10 against the Brewers and 1-5 against the Atlanta Braves. They don't play either team again.

See **Vying** page 9



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